

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A carriage comprising:
 - an electrically conductive frame disposed near an original surface of a substantially horizontally set original, and extending in a first direction in parallel with the original surface;
 - a cold cathode fluorescent lamp for illuminating the original surface, the cold cathode fluorescent lamp extending in the first direction and being disposed on the frame;
 - an optical member for guiding reflection light reflected by the original surface; and
 - a lighting circuit, attached to one end portion of the frame near a positive electrode of the cold cathode fluorescent lamp, for lighting the cold cathode fluorescent lamp.
2. (Original) A carriage according to claim 1, wherein a weight for stabilizing a weight balance in the first direction is attached on a side of the other end portion of the frame, which is distanced from the lighting circuit in the first direction.
3. (Original) A carriage according to claim 2, wherein said weight comprises an original size sensor for sensing a size of the original.
4. (Original) A carriage according to claim 1, wherein a wall thickness of said one end portion of the frame is less than a wall thickness of the other end portion of the frame, which is distanced from the lighting circuit in the first direction, thereby to stabilize a weight balance in the first direction.
5. (Original) A carriage comprising:
 - a frame disposed near an original surface of a substantially horizontally set original, and extending in a first direction in parallel with the original surface;
 - a cold cathode fluorescent lamp for illuminating the original surface, the cold cathode fluorescent lamp extending in the first direction and being disposed on the frame;
 - an optical member for guiding reflection light reflected by the original surface;
 - a lighting circuit, attached to one end portion of the frame near a positive electrode of the cold cathode fluorescent lamp, for lighting the cold cathode fluorescent lamp; and

a weight for stabilizing a weight balance in the first direction, said weight being attached on a side of the other end portion of the frame, which is distanced from the lighting circuit in the first direction.

6. (Currently Amended) A carriage according to claim 5, wherein ~~said~~ the frame has electrical conductivity is electrically conductive.

7. (Original) A carriage according to claim 5, wherein said weight comprises an original size sensor for sensing a size of the original.

8. (Original) A carriage according to claim 5, wherein a wall thickness of said one end portion of the frame is less than a wall thickness of the other end portion of the frame, which is distanced from the lighting circuit in the first direction, thereby to stabilize a weight balance in the first direction.

9. (Original) A scanner unit comprising:

a carriage, which includes an electrically conductive frame disposed near an original surface of a substantially horizontally set original, and extending in a first direction in parallel with the original surface; a cold cathode fluorescent lamp for illuminating the original surface, the cold cathode fluorescent lamp extending in the first direction and being disposed on the frame; an optical member for guiding reflection light reflected by the original surface; a lighting circuit, attached to one end portion of the frame near a positive electrode of the cold cathode fluorescent lamp, for lighting the cold cathode fluorescent lamp; and a weight for stabilizing a weight balance in the first direction, said weight being attached on a side of the other end portion of the frame, which is distanced from the lighting circuit in the first direction;

two rails extending along the original surface in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction, the two rails supporting both the end portions of the frame such that the frame may slide in the second direction; and

light receiving means for receiving the reflection light guided by the optical member.

10. (Original) A carriage according to claim 9, wherein said weight comprises an original size sensor for sensing a size of the original.

11. (Original) A carriage according to claim 9, wherein a wall thickness of said one end portion of the frame is less than a wall thickness of the other end portion of the frame, which is distanced from the lighting circuit in the first direction, thereby to stabilize a weight balance in the first direction.

12. (New) A carriage comprising:

an electrically conductive frame disposed near an original surface of a substantially horizontally set original, and extending in a first direction in parallel with the original surface;

a cold cathode fluorescent lamp for illuminating the original surface, the cold cathode fluorescent lamp extending in the first direction and being disposed on the frame; and

a lighting circuit, attached to one end portion of the frame near a positive electrode of the cold cathode fluorescent lamp, for lighting the cold cathode fluorescent lamp.